

## CLAIMS:

1. A communication station (1) that is suitable for contactless communication with transponders and with further communication stations and that has first protocol-executing means (12) designed to handle a station/transponder protocol, with the aid of which first protocol-executing means (12) communication can be effected between the communication station (1) and at least one transponder while observing the station/transponder protocol, and that has second protocol-executing means (13) designed to handle a station/station protocol that differs from the station/transponder protocol in respect of at least one protocol parameter, with the aid of which second protocol-executing means (13) communication can be effected between the communication station (1) and at least one further communication station while observing the station/station protocol.
2. A communication station (1) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first protocol-executing means (12) have energy-supply signal generating means (16) that are designed to generate an energy-supply signal (BURST) each time the handling of the station/transponder protocol starts, and wherein the second protocol-executing means (13) have synchronizing-signal generating means (22) that are designed to generate a synchronizing signal (SYNC) each time the handling of the station/station protocol starts.
3. A communication station (1) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second protocol-executing means (13) are designed to handle a station/station protocol that is arranged with a view to causing only the least possible energy consumption at the communication station (1) when communicating with at least one further communication station.
4. A communication station (1) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first protocol-executing means (12) are designed to handle a station/transponder protocol that is arranged with a view to communication with a large number of transponders, and wherein the second protocol-executing means (13) are arranged with a view to establishing a communication connection to at least one further communication station as quickly as possible.

5. An integrated circuit (2) for a communication station that is suitable for contactless communication with transponders and with further communication stations, which integrated circuit (2) has first protocol-executing means (12) designed to handle a  
5 station/transponder protocol, with the aid of which first protocol-executing means (12) communication can be effected between the communication station (1) and at least one transponder while observing the station/transponder protocol, and which integrated circuit (1) has second protocol-executing means (13) designed to handle a station/station protocol that differs from the station/transponder protocol in respect of at least one protocol parameter,  
10 with the aid of which second protocol-executing means (13) communication can be effected between the communication station (1) and at least one protocol further communication station while observing the station/station protocol.

6. An integrated circuit (2) as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first protocol-  
15 executing means (12) have energy-supply signal generating means (16) that are designed to generate an energy-supply signal (BURST) each time the handling of the station/transponder protocol starts, and wherein the second protocol-executing means (13) have synchronizing- signal generating means (22) that are designed to generate a synchronizing signal (SYNC) each time the handling of the station/station protocol starts.

20 7. An integrated circuit (2) as claimed in claim 5, wherein the second protocol- executing means (13) are designed to handle a station/station protocol that is arranged with a view to causing only the least possible energy consumption at the communication station (1) when communicating with at least one further communication station.

25 8. An integrated circuit (2) as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first protocol- executing means (12) are designed to handle a station/transponder protocol that is arranged with a view to communication with a large number of transponders, and wherein the second protocol-executing means (13) are arranged with a view to establishing a communication  
30 connection to at least one further communication station as quickly as possible.